

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W
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R 241710Z APR 78
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CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 BONN 07634

EXDIS

MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY), GW, WB
SUBJECT: THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO THE FRG AND BERLIN:
BERLIN PORTION

REFS: (A) BONN 7215 DTG 1817427 APR 78
(B) BONN 7216 DTG 181759Z APR 78
(C) USCINCEUR ECCC 06364 DTG 181705Z APR 78

BEGIN SUMMARY: REFTELS A AND B, WHICH SET OUT FOR
PLANNING PURPOSES A TENTATIVE AND PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE
FOR THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT AND THE EMBASSY'S COMMENTARIES
ON THAT SCHEDULE, NOTED THAT RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING
THE BERLIN PORTION OF THE VISIT WOULD FOLLOW. IN THIS
TELEGRAM WE OFFER SOME MORE SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS FOR
THE BERLIN VISIT. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON
REACTIONS TO THESE SUGGESTIONS. END SUMMARY

1. THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO BERLIN WILL HAVE A MAJOR
IMPACT ON PUBLIC OPINION IN GERMANY AND THE UNITED
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STATES AS WELL. ASSUMING THE PRESIDENT WILL WISH TO
MAKE ONLY ONE MAJOR SPEECH DURING HIS VISIT TO GERMANY,
THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT BERLIN BE THE SITE FOR THAT
SPEECH. CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC EXPOSURE SEEMS DESIRABLE,
TO THE EXTENT THAT IT IS CONSISTENT WITH SECURITY
CONSIDERATIONS. TO MEET THE MAJOR OBJECTIVES OF THE
PRESIDENT'S BERLIN STOP, THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS THAT A

MINIMUM OF FOUR HOURS ON THE GROUND IN BERLIN SHOULD BE ALLOTTED.

2. THE SECOND DAY OF THE BILATERAL VISIT (JULY 15) WILL BE A VERY FULL ONE, AND WE ARE MINDFUL OF THE OTHER OBJECTIVES TO BE ACCOMPLISHED ON THAT DAY. IN CONSIDERING A TENTATIVE PROGRAM, WE ARE WORKING ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE PRESIDENT, WHO WILL HAVE HAD A STATE DINNER THE EVENING BEFORE, WILL WISH TO TAKE OFF FROM BONN NO EARLIER THAN 0800 AND TO RETURN TO HIS RESIDENCE IN BONN NO LATER THAN 1900. WE ARE THUS PROPOSING AN ARRIVAL AT TEGEL AIRPORT IN BERLIN AT 1330 AND A DEPARTURE FROM BERLIN/TEGEL FOR BONN AT 1730.

3. REFTTEL C FROM CINCEUR CONTAINS A CONCEPT PLAN FOR A MORNING PROGRAM AT NUERNBERG AND GRAFENWOEHR WHICH, IF ACCEPTED IN ITS ENTIRETY, WOULD HAVE THE PRESIDENT ARRIVING IN BERLIN AT 1430. IN THE EMBASSY'S VIEW, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO CONDENSE SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES ON THE MORNING PROGRAM IN ORDER TO GAIN THE ADDITIONAL TIME NEEDED IN BERLIN. THE EMBASSY AND EUCOM WILL COORDINATE IN REFINING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE MORNING PROGRAM, TO INCLUDE POSSIBLE OPTIONS IN ADDITION TO THE NUERNBERG/GRAFENWOEHR PROPOSAL.

4. FOLLOWING IS THE EMBASSY'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION-
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TION FOR THE BERLIN PROGRAM:

ARRIVE BERLIN, TEGEL AIRPORT

-- MET BY FRENCH COMMANDANT AND GOVERNING
MAYOR

-- ARRIVAL STATEMENT

PROCEED BY MOTORCADE TO US HEADQUARTERS
(NOTE: IF THE CHANCELLOR OR THE FOREIGN
MINISTER ACCOMPANIES THE PRESIDENT TO BERLIN,
HE WOULD PRESUMABLY NOT GO ALONG TO US
HEADQUARTERS BUT WOULD LEAVE THE AIRPORT WITH
THE GOVERNING MAYOR BY SEPARATE TRANSPORTATION
AND REJOIN THE PRESIDENT AT A LATER
POINT IN PROGRAM.)

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 BONN 07634

EXDIS

-- REVIEW HONOR GUARD

-- BRIEF WORDS OF GREETING TO THE AMERICAN
COMMUNITY GATHERED IN THE FORECOURT OF US
HEADQUARTERS

PROCEED BY MOTORCADE TO THE BERLIN WALL, EITHER AT
POTSDAMER PLATZ OR AT BRANDENBURG GATE.

-- GREETED BY THE BRITISH COMMANDANT

-- PHOTO AND TV COVERAGE; NO REMARKS

CONTINUE BY MOTORCADE EITHER TO THE KAISER WILHELM
MEMORIAL CHURCH (GEDAECHTNISKIRCHE) AT THE LOWER
END OF THE KURFURSTENDAMM OR TO THE CHARLOTTENBURG
PALACE

-- GREETED BY GOVERNING MAYOR AND ANY SENIOR
FRG OFFICIALS WHO ARE IN BERLIN FOR THE
VISIT

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-- GOLDEN BOOK CEREMONY

-- MAJOR SPEECH TO OUTDOOR CROWD

PROCEED BY MOTORCADE TO TEGEL AIRPORT FOR DEPARTURE

COMMENTS ON FOREGOING PROPOSED SCHEDULE

5. VISIT TO US HEADQUARTERS. OUR RECOMMENDATION FOR A BRIEF STOP AT US HEADQUARTERS TO GREET THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY IS BASED ON THE FACT THAT THESE ARE THE AMERICANS WHO ARE CARRYING OUT OUR GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING OBLIGATIONS IN OCCUPIED BERLIN. THEY TEND TO FEEL ISOLATED AS BERLINERS DO, AND A CHANCE TO SEE THE PRESIDENT WOULD MEAN A GREAT DEAL. WE ALSO BELIEVE A FEW REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT CONCERNING THE WAY IN WHICH THESE AMERICANS ARE FULFILLING THEIR OBLIGATIONS WOULD BE WELL-RECEIVED BY THE AMERICAN PUBLIC.

6. VISIT TO THE WALL. WE HAVE CONSIDERED THE DESIRABILITY OF A STOP AT CHECKPOINT CHARLIE WHERE THE PRESIDENT MIGHT SHAKE HANDS WITH THE MILITARY POLICE ON DUTY. THIS WOULD BE A MAJOR IMPACT EVENT, BUT WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT IT IS NOT FEASIBLE. SECURITY PRECAUTIONS AND PRESS COVERAGE WOULD MAKE IT ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO AVOID BLOCKING TRAFFIC AT THE CHECKPOINT FOR AT LEAST A FEW MINUTES. WE WOULD PROTEST VIGOROUSLY IF THE EAST GERMANS OR THE SOVIETS WERE TO STOP TRAFFIC ON THEIR SIDE, AND THEREFORE WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD AVOID DOING SO ON OUR OWN. BRANDENBURG GATE IS THE CUSTOMARY PLACE FOR VIEWING THE WALL, BUT RECENT "IMPROVEMENTS" THERE HAVE SERVED TO LESSEN THE IMPACT OF THE WALL FOR THE VIEWER. WE RECALL ALSO THAT WHEN PRESIDENT KENNEDY

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STOPPED AT BRANDENBURG GATE THE EAST GERMANS HAD DRAPED IT WITH FLAGS FROM THEIR SIDE WHICH BLOCKED THE VIEW OF EAST BERLIN. IT MAY THUS BE PREFERABLE FOR THE STOP TO BE AT POTSDAMER PLATZ. THIS CAN BE WORKED OUT WITH THE ADVANCE PARTY.

7. GOLDEN BOOK CEREMONY. WHILE THIS CEREMONY CUSTOMARILY TAKES PLACE AT THE SCHOENEBERG RATHAUS, IT IS NOT NECESSARY THAT IT BE HELD THERE. WE HAVE SUGGESTED COMBINING THE GOLDEN BOOK SIGNING WITH THE MAJOR SPEECH AS A MEANS OF SAVING TIME.

8. SPEECH SITE. FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT, BOTH THE EMBASSY AND THE BERLIN AUTHORITIES RECOMMEND THAT THE PRESIDENT'S MAJOR SPEECH BE DELIVERED IN AN OPEN AIR SETTING WHERE A LARGE CROWD CAN BE ACCOMMODATED. THERE ARE OBVIOUS SECURITY RISKS, BUT STEPS CAN BE TAKEN TO MINIMIZE,

IF NOT TO REMOVE, THESE RISKS. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE
PRESIDENT WOULD WISH TO VISIT BERLIN AND BE ISOLATED
FROM THE PEOPLE THE WHOLE TIME HE IS THERE.

9. WE HAVE SOUGHT IN CONSULTATION WITH GOVERNING MAYOR
STOBBE TO IDENTIFY SITES WHICH WOULD PROVIDE MAXIMUM
EXPOSURE WITH OPTIMUM POSSIBILITIES FOR ASSURING
SECURITY, WHILE AVOIDING REPLAYS OF EARLIER
PRESIDENTIAL VISITS. NEITHER WE NOR MAYOR STOBBE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 03 BONN 07634

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FAVOR SCHOENEBERG RATHAUS AS THE SITE FOR THE SPEECH.
STOBBE'S FIRST CHOICE, AND WE CONCUR, WOULD BE THE
GEDAECHTNISKIRCHE. THE LOWER KURFURSTENDAMM AREA
EPITOMIZES POST-WAR BERLIN TO MILLIONS OF PEOPLE
EVERYWHERE AND THE SURROUNDINGS WOULD BE EXTREMELY
PHOTOGENIC. THE PRESIDENT COULD STAND WITHIN THE
DOOR OF THE OLD CHURCH TO SPEAK OR COULD SPEAK FROM A
ROSTRUM WITH PROTECTIVE FEATURES.

10. A SECOND CHOICE WOULD BE THE CHARLOTTENBURG, WHICH
HAS LARGE FORMAL GARDENS WHERE LISTENERS COULD ASSEMBLE.
THAT SETTING WOULD HAVE A LESS TYPICALLY BERLIN FLAVOR,
HOWEVER, AS THE CHARLOTTENBURG WOULD COME THROUGH IN
THE PHOTOGRAPHS AS JUST ANOTHER PALACE.

11. WE SHOULD NOTE THAT AN APPEARANCE AT EITHER SITE
WOULD NOT BE UNIQUE. WHEN QUEEN ELIZABETH VISITS BERLIN

IN MAY, SHE WILL HAVE A LUNCHEON AND LARGE RECEPTION
AT THE CHARLOTTENBURG, THEN GO BY MOTORCADE TO THE
GEDAECHTNISKIRCHE WHERE SHE WILL STOP BRIEFLY TO GREET
THE CROWD BEFORE PROCEEDING TO THE AIRPORT. WE DO NOT
BELIEVE THIS WOULD DETRACT FROM THE CHOICE OF THE
GEDAECHTNISKIRCHE AS THE SITE FOR THE PRESIDENT'S
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SPEECH.

12. SHOULD IT BE DECIDED THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL SPEAK
INDOORS, WE WILL SUBMIT SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A
SITE AT A LATER DATE. PERHAPS THE BEST SITE WOULD BE
THE BERLIN PHILHARMONIC OR THE CONGRESS HALL, WHICH HAVE
SEATING CAPACITIES OF 2,000 AND 3,000 PEOPLE. WE WOULD
WANT TO CONSULT FULLY WITH THE BERLIN AUTHORITIES,
HOWEVER, BEFORE OPTING FOR ONE OF THESE RATHER THAN
A LARGER HALL. PRESUMABLY ATTENDANCE WOULD BE BY
INVITATION, AND WE WOULD NEED TO DISCUSS PROCEDURES FOR
DETERMINING GUEST LISTS AS A BASIS FOR DECIDING ON THE
SIZE OF THE AUDITORIUM. A FURTHER POSSIBILITY FOR
AN INDOOR (OR AT LEAST CONTROLLED-ENVIRONMENT SPEECH)
WOULD BE A FACTORY VISIT.

13. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON REACTIONS TO THE
FOREGOING PROPOSALS, AS A BASIS FOR FURTHER
PRELIMINARY PLANNING. STOESEL

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